Appl. No. 09/390,362
Reply to Office Action of: April 26, 2006

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 16-26 with the following replacement paragraph:

Referring to Figure 1, a data communication system includes a pair of correspondents 10, 12 exchanging a message M over a communication channel 14. Each of the correspondents 10, 12 includes a cryptographic unit 16, 18 respectively and a terminal 20, 22 to generate and receive the message M. Each of the cryptographic units 16, 18 implements a public key encryption scheme that enables it to generate a session key, to encipher or decipher a message using the session key or to sign a message using a private key [[which]] whereby the message can then be recovered using a ~~corresponding~~ public key corresponding to the private key. The general implementation of such schemes and their operating principles are well known. The encryption scheme may be loaded in to the encryption unit from a data carrier coded to implement the protocol under the direction of a general purpose computer or may be implemented on a chipset as preprogrammed instructions.

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